

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a list of all claims that have been pending in the instant application with parenthetical status notations. An instruction line precedes each claim that is amended, cancelled, or added by the instant paper.

Please **cancel** claims 1-8 without prejudice.

Claims 1-8 [CURRENTLY CANCELLED]

Please **amend** claim 9 as follows:

9. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A method of inhibiting osteoclast formation comprising contacting bone marrow cells with a composition comprising at least about 10 µg/mL of mussel hydrolysate ~~from Indian green mussel~~ and at least one additive, wherein said mussel hydrolysate is formed by a process comprising:

fermenting meat and mantle fluid of Indian green mussel with a proteolytic enzyme at a constant temperature thereby forming a thick paste;

contacting the paste with an acid;

adjusting the resulting solution to room temperature
and adding a base to maintain pH; and
incubating the resulting solution in a separating
flask thereby forming a middle layer containing
said mussel hydrolysate.

Please **amend** claim 10 as follows:

10. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] The method of claim 9, wherein the additive(s) is selected from the group consisting of carbohydrates, sugar, proteins, fats, water, and ~~pharmaceutically and a pharmaceutically~~ acceptable carrier.
11. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 9, wherein at least one additive is a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
12. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 9, wherein at least one additive is a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.
13. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 9, wherein the Indian green mussel is *Perna viridis*.

14. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 9, wherein inhibition of mononuclear TRAP-positive osteoclast formation is at least about 20%.
15. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 14, wherein inhibition of mononuclear TRAP-positive osteoclast formation is at least about 50%.
16. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 9, wherein inhibition of multinuclear TRAP-positive osteoclast formation is at least about 20%.
17. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 16, wherein inhibition of multinuclear TRAP-positive osteoclast formation is at least about 50%.
18. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 9, wherein inhibition of osteoclast formation is measured as inhibition of formation of osteoclasts from murine hemopoietic cells.
19. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 9, wherein the concentration of mussel hydrolysate is between about 10 μ g/mL and about 100 μ g/mL.

20. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 9, wherein the concentration of mussel hydrolysate is greater than about 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.

Please **amend** claim 21 as follows:

21. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A method of inhibiting bone resorption comprising contacting bone marrow cells with a composition comprising ~~at least about 10 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ of mussel hydrolysate from Indian green mussel and at least one additive, wherein said mussel hydrolysate is formed by a process comprising:~~

~~fermenting meat and mantle fluid of Indian green mussel with a proteolytic enzyme at a constant temperature thereby forming a thick paste;~~

~~contacting the paste with an acid;~~

~~adjusting the resulting solution to room temperature and adding a base to maintain pH; and~~

~~incubating the resulting solution in a separating flask thereby forming a middle layer containing said mussel hydrolysate.~~

22. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 21, wherein the additive is selected from the group consisting of carbohydrates, sugar, proteins, fats, water, and pharmaceutically accepted carrier.
23. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 21, wherein the additive is a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
24. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 21, wherein the additive is a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.
25. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 21, wherein the Indian green mussel is *Perna viridis*.
26. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 21, wherein the concentration of mussel hydrolysate is between about 10 μ g/mL and about 100 μ g/mL.
27. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 21, wherein the concentration of mussel hydrolysate is greater than about 100 μ g/mL.
28. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 21, wherein inhibition is measured as inhibition of RANKL-induced bone resorption.

29. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 28, wherein inhibition of RANKL-induced bone resorption is at least about 40%.

30. [ORIGINAL] The method of claim 29, wherein inhibition of RANKL-induced bone resorption is at least about 70%.

Please **cancel** claims 31-35 without prejudice.

Claims 31-35 [CURRENTLY CANCELLED]

Please **add** new claim 36 as follows:

36. [NEW] The method of claim 9, wherein the proteolytic enzyme is protosubtiline.

Please **add** new claim 37 as follows:

37. [NEW] The method of claim 21, wherein the proteolytic enzyme is protosubtiline.